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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR OXIDISING TERPENES

(57) Abstract

A process for oxidising a substrate which is an acyclic or cyclic terpene, or a cycloalkene; or a substituted derivative thereof, which process comprises oxidising said compound with a mutant haem–containing enzyme, the mutant comprising the substitution of an amino acid in the active site by an amino acid with a less polar side–chain. The enzyme is typically $P450_{cam}$ or $P450_{BM-3}$. Cells and libraries of cells in which the process can be carried out or which can be used to select advantageous mutant enzymes are also provided.